

The method of the invention for reducing perioperative pain, generally comprises the steps of: providing the sterile, isotonic pharmacologic agent of the invention described above; and introducing the agent as an adjunct for preemptive analgesia before a surgical procedure is initiated. As noted, the agent is best introduced as one or more injectable therapies selected from a group consisting of subcutaneous, caudal, epidural, intramuscular, intradural, intraspinal or peripheral nerve blockade. The agent used in the method preferably comprises 1% lidocaine HCL and 0.25% bupivacaine HCL in ratios sufficient to provide at least six hours of analgesic effect, and may further comprise epinephrine and/or one or more buffering compounds such as sodium hydroxide and/or hydrochloric acid.

Although specific features of the invention are discussed with some of the formulations and methods and not others, this is for convenience only as some feature may be combined with any or all of the other features in accordance with the invention. Modifications of the formulations and methods will occur to those skilled in the art and are within the following claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A pharmacological agent for use as preemptive analgesia, comprising, a solution comprising 1% lidocaine HCL and 0.25% bupivacaine HCL in a ratio less than or equal to 10:1.

2. The agent of claim 1, wherein said ratio is less than or equal to 5:1.

3. The agent of claim 1, wherein said ratio is less than or equal to 2:1.

4. The agent of claim 1, wherein said ratio is less than or equal to 1:1.

5. The agent of claim 1, wherein said solution further comprises one or more buffers selected from a group consisting of sodium hydroxide and hydrochloric acid.

6. The agent of claim 1, wherein said solution is an injectable therapy for one or more applications selected from a group consisting of subcutaneous, caudal, epidural, intramuscular, intradural, intraspinal and peripheral nerve blockade.

7. The agent of claim 1, wherein said solution further comprises epinephrine bitartrate 1:200,000.

8. The agent of claim 1, wherein said solution is capable of providing analgesic effect for at least six hours.

9. A method of reducing perioperative pain, comprising the steps of,

providing a sterile, isotonic pharmacologic agent comprising lidocaine and bupivacaine in a ratio less than or equal to 10:1; and

10. introducing said agent as an adjunct for preemptive analgesia before a surgical procedure is initiated.

11. The method of claim 9, wherein said agent is introduced as one or more injectable therapies selected from a group consisting of subcutaneous, caudal, epidural, intramuscular, intradural, intraspinal or peripheral nerve blockade.

12. The method of claim 9, wherein said agent comprises 1% lidocaine HCL and 0.25% bupivacaine HCL in a ratio sufficient to provide at least six hours of analgesic effect.

13. The method of claim 10, wherein said agent further comprises one or more buffering compounds.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein one or more of said buffering compounds comprises sodium hydroxide.

15. A method of reducing perioperative pain, comprising the steps of,

providing a sterile, isotonic pharmacologic agent comprising 1% lidocaine, 0.25% bupivacaine and one or more pH buffers; and

infiltrating said agent as an adjunct for preemptive analgesia before a surgical procedure is initiated, whereby said agent provides at least six hours of analgesic effect after infiltration.

16. An injectable preemptive analgesic agent, comprising, 1% lidocaine HCL and 0.25% bupivacaine in an effective ratio capable of providing at least six hours of analgesic therapy, one or more pH buffers, and one or more vasoconstrictors.

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